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Mission of the Whitman Conservation District:

The Mission of the Whitman Conservation District is to promote the wise, ethical, and sustainable use of Natural Resources, by leadership in the education and assistance of all people in the district. The Whitman Conservation District will promote the implementation of the best available conservation measures and provide a forum for local input on Natural Resource issues.

Natural Resource Priorities:

- Water Quality Issues (Livestock and Sedimentation)
- Soil Erosion and Soil Quality
- Conservation Reserve Program Land Management (Takeout, Grazing, Weed Control)
- Manure Management
- Wildlife Management
- Education / Outreach

Program Area: Water Quality Issues (Livestock and Sedimentation)

Goal(s): By March 2013, there will be 100% participation by livestock operators to have a plan in place to address water quality issues; 100 acres of stream protected; and no feedlot runoff into streams.

Funding Source(s): Implementation Grant; WSCC Livestock Technical Assistance and Cost-Share Grants; Programs Income

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Provide technical assistance for the implementation of Best Management Practices on four operations	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	6	\$1483.68
Complete two shops talks and/or site tours	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	4	\$ 989.12



Program Area: Soil Erosion and Soil Quality

Goal(s): By March 2013, there will be 15 producers moving from a conventional tillage system to a minimum tillage system; a promotion of mulch till with 5 producers; 5 shop talks completed addressing soil erosion or soil quality; and an expansion on the promotion of alternatives to burning stubble.

Funding Source(s): Implementation Grant; Technical Service Provider Program; Programs Income

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Provide technical assistance for the implementation of Best Management Practices	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	25	\$6182.00
Negotiate and complete Technical Service Provider Agreements with NRCS (7/09-9/09 and 10/09-6/10)	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator NRCS	37	\$9149.36
Coordinate with County an Agreement for wood chipper use for erosion control	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	1	\$ 247.28

Program Area: Conservation Reserve Program Lands Management (Takeout, Grazing, Weed Control)

Goal(s): By March 2013, there will be through resolution: seed CRP with minimal soil disturbance; through resolution and policy add grazing as a maintenance option for CRP without payment reduction; through resolution and policy add grazing as a weed control option on CRP; and a demonstration site on grazing CRP.

Funding Source(s): Programs Income; Money Market

	Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Work	with Cattleman Assn & County Extension on data collection, documented	Start: 7/09	Cory Aeschliman		
sites	on CRP	End: 6/10	Tom Kammerzell		



Program Area: Manure Management

Goal(s): By March 2013, there will be a demonstration project on manure management including data to prove that use of manure is beneficial to the soil and 2,000 acres of marginal land treated with manure

Funding Source(s): Livestock Technical Assistance Grant; Programs Income; Money Market

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	
Research how manure management activities are being done in the areas similar to Whitman CD	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	Walter Riley District Coordinator	2	\$ 494.56	
Enlist producer interest in a manure management demonstration area	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	Walter Riley Dennis Kincaid District Coordinator	2	\$ 494 56	

Program Area: Wildlife Management

Goal(s): By March 2013, by working with the Game Department, there will be double the present number of doe permits and special hunts and an additional 500 acres of wildlife plantings to improve bird habitat.

Funding Source(s): Programs Income;

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Provide technical assistance and service for the Annual Plant Sale and Guzzlers	Start: 7/09 End: 4/10	District Coordinator	10	\$2472.80

Program Area: Air Quality

Goal(s): The District will continue to be a Burn Permit Authority, assisting 75 persons each year with the permitting process.

Funding Source(s): Department of Ecology Burn Permit Program

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Provide technical assistance and service for the Burn Permit Program including alternatives to burning stubble	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	17	\$4203.76
Develop or use existing agriculture burning alternatives / recommendations handout	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	Dennis Kincaid Supervisors		



Program Area: Education and Outreach

Goal(s): By March 2013, there will be a copy of The Steward received by all the people of the District (on newsletter mailing list);10 educational shop talks and/or tours; attendance at the Board meetings by teachers in the District; hosted speakers at the schools; 500 youth reached with conservation education; and an increase in visualization of demonstration sites and practices with signage.

Funding Source(s): Implementation Grant; Verle Kaiser Endowment Grant; Programs Income

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Publish four editions of The Steward	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	20	\$4945.60
Add all District people to The Steward's mailing list	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	5	\$1236.40
Provide fifth grade conservation program to three classes	Start: 3/10 End: 5/10	District Coordinator	7	\$1730.96
Host / coordinate conservation speakers to present at High School	Start: 8/09 End: 9/10	District Coordinator	2	\$ 494.56
Maintain District webpage	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	6	\$1483.68

Program Area: Cost-Share

Goal(s): Provide financial incentive to participate in the District Cost-Share Program through implementation of Best Management Practices.

Funding Source(s): Implementation Grant; Programs Income

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Financial incentive to implement Best Management Practices	Start: 7/09 End: 6/10	District Coordinator	15	\$ 3709.20 \$15000.00



Program Area: District Operations

Goal(s): By March 2013, there will be complete effective and efficient operations to include all those required by the State of Washington and by the Washington State Conservation Commission; and to continue to strive for stable funding through grant funding, program development and contracting, exploring funding through fee for service, county funding and private funding sources.

Funding Source(s): Implementation Grant; Programs Income

Activities for FY2009	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
District Operations:		CONTRACTOR		
Prepare and complete monthly Board meetings which include review of district law, rules, regulations on an annual basis	As Required	Board Members District Coordinator	13	\$3214.64
Complete monthly Board meeting financial reports using the BARS Accounting System and annual financial requirements which include AP/AR, grant vouchers, taxes, internal audit, year-end financial report, district budget, audit assessment	As Required	District Auditor District Coordinator	8	\$1978.24
Complete grant applications and reports as required by all funding entities	As Required	District Coordinator	2	\$ 494.56
Complete review and report requirements – district operations review; annual plan of work; annual report	As Required	Board Members District Coordinator	6	\$1483.68
Conduct district appointments and elections as required and assist other districts if requested	As Required	Board Members District Coordinator	3	\$ 741.84
Review and update when needed the district policy book, equipment inventory, MOU's, policies and procedures, employment posters and maintain/rent equipment as needed	Annually	Board Members District Coordinator	2	\$ 494.56
Annually complete staff personnel reviews; provide supervisor and staff training as needed	Annually	Board Members District Staff	3	\$ 741.84
Attend WADE, SE Area Mtg; PE Mtg; WACD Convention; Direct Seed Conference; Annual Cattlemans Assoc Mtg; new supervisor orientation; regional tours; and other seminars/meetings that relate to priority concerns of the district and/or its operations	Annually	Board Members District Staff	6	\$1483.68
As directed by the Board, apply for and secure funding for priority concerns within the district; explore opportunities to create district programs, fee for products, county funding and/or private funding	As Requested	Board Members District Staff	3	\$ 741.84

Priority Natural Resource Issues:

Priority	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6
#1	Conservation district purchase wood chipper – make available – erosion control	Conservation farming – enhanced conservation grants, water quality, erosion	Water, soil and air quality	Soil erosion / water quality	Soil quality	Yellow star thistle and medusa head control
#2	Multispecies grazing / eliminating weeds in CRP	CRP takeout issues / weed control	Precision farming	CRP takeout issues	Livestock water quality management	Livestock emissions
#3	Small no-till drill for wildlife habitat planting	Precision farming	CRP Takeout	Alternative crops development	Communication / Education	Baling of straw
#4	Eliminate pheasant hunting by about a month / half		Education			
#5						

Prioritized Natural Resource Issues and Measuring Success:

- 1. Soil Quality & Erosion (precision farming, conservation system) acres of technology applied, acres of tillage practices, measurable results, erosion
- 2. Livestock Management number of projects
- 3. Water Quality sampling in areas with treatments and water quality improvement
- 4. Air Quality comparison to 20 years previous, dust control, livestock operations assisted
- 5. Wildlife Management Concerns (water quality and air quality) reduction in numbers and related concerns
- 6. Education & Public Outreach #s of non-agriculture people on conservation activities, #s of youth with conservation education
- 7. CRP Takeout & Weed Control methods for takeout, establish a benchmark, and measure from year to year
- 8. Equipment Needs hours of use, numbers served

Recommendations for the Whitman District:

- Partner with the County on keeping and using the county chipper for projects
- Partner with the county on erosion control and weed control projects
- Encourage board not to be overburden do a good job at what we do
- On-site visits with land managers see the physical issues
- More cooperation between organizations use all the resources that are out there reach out to other entities for assistance
- Use more technology precision farming
- Reporting back at the end of projects on the end results